



# First United Methodist Church Champaign

Where connecting, growing, and serving are a way of life



The Mission of First United Methodist Church is to:

- CONNECT people with God and one another
- GROW as disciples of Jesus Christ
- SERVE others.

## Messenger

Volume XXVII, No. 14

July 10, 2019

### **Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God. Each exclamation is a trigger to prayer. I find myself praying for you with a glad heart. I am so pleased that you have continued on in this with us, believing and proclaiming God's Message, from the day you heard it right up to the present. There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears. (Philippians 1:2-6, The Message)*

On July 1, I arrived at the church office. Finally! Since April 4th, when I learned of this new appointment, I have been waiting, eager to get started, undaunted by the challenges that lie before us, and hopeful about the ministries we will do together.

But there was work to do to get here: saying goodbye to a beloved congregation I've served 14 years, packing a home in which I've lived 20 years, and praying, praying, praying. I have been praying my way through equal measures of grief and excitement. The largest part of my prayer life has been giving thanks to God!

As part of the preparation for coming to Champaign First, I've had the privilege to meet and work with some key leaders at the church. And, like Paul wrote, "every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God!" To be fair, the phrase, "exclamation of thanks" is a paraphrase found in *The Message*. It makes me think of a 14-year old girl who punctuates every sentence with exclamation points!!! She is so excited about everything!!!! And so am !!!!



First, THANK YOU to Rev. Leah Pogemiller and Rev. Gary Ford, both friends and colleagues for many years. Thank you for your faithful service to Jesus Christ in this place and may God's blessings be upon you in the next chapter of your lives.

Second, THANK YOU, to Trudy Walters and Mindy Slack. They have been a source of encouragement, wisdom and support. They have tirelessly served on your behalf. They introduced me to the best burger in Champaign at Farren's and they stocked our fridge with drinks and frozen Snickers bars! They delivered pizza on the night our moving truck deposited our household goods. They have organized meals in parishioners' homes over the summer and created a schedule to have meals delivered to our door to help us through these unsettled first weeks of getting established in a new place. They have been amazing and I break out in exclamations of thanks to God! My husband, Frank and I are so appreciative!

Third, THANK YOU, to the Staff at First! My goodness! Your congregation is in good hands! I am inspired by the staff's talent, their enthusiasm and their hard work. They have kept me in the loop, made sure the parsonage was clean and ready, taught me about your church and tirelessly served both the church and the community all while trying to bring the new pastor up to speed. I am grateful!

Fourth, THANK YOU, to you...for the welcome cards and the gift cards (so appreciated)! But, more than that, thank you for taking a risk on changing the worship hour for the summer and opening yourselves to a variety of worship music as we celebrate our oneness in Jesus Christ. You are already fearless!

Thank you, also, for signing up for the Bible Study, *Making Sense of the Bible*. I am THRILLED that 59 of you have prioritized this important class. At the heart of being Christians of the Wesleyan persuasion is our pleasure in allowing the Word of God to shape our hearts, minds and spirits. But, the Bible is complicated and we can learn to interpret God's Word better. This class is one more step in that direction. If you have not yet signed up, or you missed the first class, don't let that keep you away. Come as often as you can over the course of the summer!

My first priority is to meet you, hear your story, get to know you and let you know me. This will take a long time...there are a lot of you! I will also be trying to get settled at home and into a new life rhythm. But I'm here and we're moving into our future together...finally! In the midst of all that is new and unfamiliar, God is faithful, the people of God have been loving and kind, and I am thankful!!!!

Blessings,  
♥ Rev. Julia Melgreen

## **Backpack Supply List – 2019**

- 6-8 No.2 pencils**
- 1 box of colored pencils**
- 1 box of washable markers (Crayola)**
- 3 glue sticks**
- 1 bottle of Elmer's Glue**
- 1 pair of blunt tip scissors**
- 1 box of 24-count crayons**
- 1 pencil box or bag**
- 5 pocket folders (no decoration)**
- 2 spiral WIDE RULE notebooks (no decoration)**
- 1 box of tissues (rectangular)**
- 1 pair inexpensive earbuds (can be found at Dollar Tree)**
- 1 bottle of hand sanitizer (non-pump)**
- 2 pink erasers**
- 1 ruler (12 inch, non-bendable)**

## **Supply Collection July 7-25**

### **School Backpacks for empty tomb Kids**

It's backpack time again - time to put smiles on the faces of the elementary-school kids of the community who need our help to start school with a backpack filled with the necessary supplies. These kids will soon sign up at empty tomb, and the backpacks will be distributed to them at empty tomb on August 5. It is expected that we at FUMC will supply at least 50 of these filled backpacks. So, now is the time to start shopping.

A list of the needed supplies is above, and there will be a big orange tub at a table in Friendship Center North on July 14 and 21 for your convenience in dropping off your supplies and backpacks. During the week the tub will be in the Church Resource Room. Of course, if shopping is not your favorite thing to do, we will be happy to accept your monetary donation and do the shopping for you. The filled backpacks will be blessed at the July 28 worship service.

This is a most worthy effort, and, as always, your most generous support is greatly appreciated by the kids, empty tomb, and your Local Outreach Ministry.

Thank you for all you do.



# Here's The Scoop

## Worship Schedule July, August, September

Sunday, July 14 – August 25	9-10am Making Sense of the Bible (study) 10-10:30am Coffee Connections 10:30am One Worship Service
Sunday, September 1	10-10:30am Coffee Connections 10:30am One Worship Service
Sunday, September 8	10-10:30am Coffee Connections 10:30am One Worship Service 11:45am Rally Day Picnic in West Side Park
Sunday, September 15	9am Perceptions Worship 10am Coffee Connections 11am Classic Worship

### Youth Reunion for Any Person Who Has Participated as a Youth at FUMC to Reunite for Fellowship - August 16-18, 2019

Friday, August 16	Supper at Papa Del's 5-8 pm
Saturday, August 17	Taste of Champaign-Urbana (no designated time)
Sunday, August 18	Service and Lunch from 12-2 (Subway)

All are welcome! If interested, contact Cathy (Abell) Mitchell at 309-645-2187.  
There is an event listing on Facebook.  
Peace and Grace!





**PRE FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE**

**Friday, August 2 4-6pm**

**Volunteers Needed!**

**We will be hosting a PRE Friday Night Live event at FUMC on Friday, August 2, from 4-6 pm.**

This will be a family friendly event with food trucks, a fire truck and police car, a bounce house, and lots of games for kids. This is a great opportunity to use our hospitality skills and welcome the community to our church!

We will need volunteers to work the games outside and monitor the inside of the church.

Look for the sign-up table on Sundays, July 14-28 OR email Ruth: [ruth@champaignfumc.org](mailto:ruth@champaignfumc.org)

## Clothing Donations Needed

empty tomb is in need of clothing and is able to accept clothes at 301 N. Fourth St., Champaign, IL.

9 am–12:30 pm and 2:15–5 pm, Monday-Saturday

We ask that donors bring bags or boxes of clothing which are in season and in good condition as well as household items.

April–September: Summer clothes

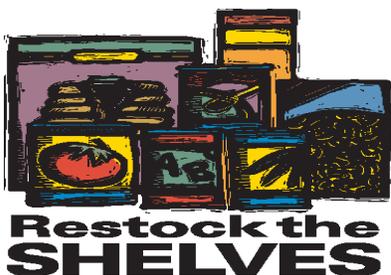
October–March: Fall / Winter clothes

Questions? Call 356-2262; Office open 9 am-5 pm, Monday through Friday or email [info@emptytomb.org](mailto:info@emptytomb.org)



**empty tomb<sup>®</sup>, inc.**

## Stock the Food Pantry Early & Often



First United Methodist Church members are encouraged to bring non-perishable items to the church on the first Sunday of each month to stock our food pantry. These items are used by the volunteers to provide food for the families in need. There's a desperate need for more volunteers. Please call Sue Bachman at 359-4390 for more information.

*Especially needed are: sugar, Hamburger Helper, and toilet paper. Of course, monetary donations are always appreciated.*

**“Parents are the first teachers of their children in the ways of the faith. Parents are called to pass on to their children the best of what they’ve been given, and yes, to help them learn from their mistakes.”**

JON LEONETTI  
*Mission of the Family*

## To Our Guests and Visitors . . .



**Welcome** to First United Methodist Church of Champaign. We are honored that you have chosen to worship with us, and we invite you to visit the Hospitality desk in the Friendship Center, adjacent to the Sanctuary. Or you can visit us on our website, [www.champaignfumc.org](http://www.champaignfumc.org), to learn more about the many opportunities for worship, study, fellowship, and service available through the ministries of our congregation.

### How do I become a member...?

If you are considering membership in the congregation of First United Methodist Church, you are invited to attend an orientation group: “Connecting@First.” This is an opportunity to learn more about the ministries of the Church.

If you would like to register for the next group, please contact Sharon Johnson, Administrative Assistant to the Directing Pastor, [sjohnson@champaignfumc.org](mailto:sjohnson@champaignfumc.org), or 356-9078.

## Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screenings



On July 28, Diane Fish will conduct a blood pressure screening for interested congregation members. The blood pressure screening will be held during the Coffee Connections in between Sunday services. To allow for privacy, the screening will take place in the Library. Blood pressure screenings will occur regularly, usually on the fourth Sunday of each month. Please contact Diane at the church (ask to leave a message for the Parish Nurse) if you have any questions about the screening.

## Youth News



As you read this, the youth group will be on our annual Appalachia Service Project (ASP) Mission Trip! I'm here to fill you in on the average ASP week and how everything goes down!

**Saturday** - We arrive at the church at 9:00 am and try to head out by 9:30 am. That never happens on time. But eventually, we load up the vehicles and drive to Louisville, Kentucky! We'll stay at Middletown United Methodist Church, which is where David Gerber and his family attend church. We cover the interior of the vans with old bed sheets and cardboard so they won't get dirty. Then we have a devotion, eat some delicious barbecue, and go out for ice cream! When we come back, it's time to hit the hay!

**Sunday** - We wake up early and attend church at Middletown, wearing our ASP shirts. We head out after the service to drive to our center in Sneedville, TN. When we get to the center, we have to perform a skit to introduce ourselves! Then we have meetings, dinner, and a few people get to have an early look at their work sites!

**Monday-Friday** - We get up bright and early, since devotions are before breakfast at 7:15 am! After we eat, we load up our work vans with tools, food, and water and head to our work sites. We'll work until around 4:00/4:30 pm or so, taking breaks to talk with our families (whose homes we are working on) and eat lunch. When we get back to the center, better race to the showers! Afterwards, we'll do chores, hang out, eat dinner, and have an evening devotion. Tuesday is Culture Night - the ASP Staff will have someone teach us more about Appalachian culture. We've heard Appalachian folk or gospel bands, storytellers, and learned folk dancing! We'll have to see what it will be this Tuesday! On Thursday, we'll have a picnic with the different families we're serving! Friday night is our last night, so everyone stays up late hanging out. The ONLY thing that is constant every single night? ICE CREAM RUNS!!!

**Saturday** - We get ready to head out. We load up the vans, say goodbye to the staff, and go somewhere in town for breakfast. After that, we'll drive to Middletown United Methodist again to do a last devotion together and have lunch. Then it's smooth sailing all the way home - the kids are typically so tired that they all fall asleep at this point. Then we return to the church and look forward to next summer!

Meredith  
meredith@champaignfumc.org

### Coming Events:

**Monday, July 22 - *The Lion King* at the Harvest Moon Drive-In Theater** - On July 22, join us for a fun night at the drive-in! We'll meet that night at the church and pile into the van to drive to Gibson City! Cost is \$5.00. Times depend on when the sun is setting, so stay tuned for the exact time! Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, and radios!

**Sunday, August 4, 3:45 pm - 5:30ish - Escape Room** - We'll be taking on an escape room at Champaign-Urbana Adventures in Time and Space! We'll meet at the church at 3:45 and take the van over. We'll have an hour once we get there to "Save the World!" Cost is \$15/person. Please RSVP by July 27, so that we can get registered and have an accurate headcount!



**Happy 71st Anniversary  
to Bob & Verna Coffin  
on July 18.**

### Flower Calendar Sign-Up for 2019

The 2019 Flower Calendar Sign-up is available on the bulletin board outside the Resource Room. You can choose the dates on which to celebrate special people and/or special events among your family and friends. The flowers are ordered for you by the chairman of the month. It is a simple way to beautify the chancel and remember the special people in your life. For questions, call Teryl Pigott at 621-2744 or email [terylpigott@gmail.com](mailto:terylpigott@gmail.com).



# Puzzle!

Draw lines to connect the biblical figures with the locations associated with them.

Abraham		Moab
Amos		Canaan
Ananias		Babylon
Cornelius		Caesarea
Daniel		Nineveh
Dorcas		Jericho
Esther		Ur
Jesus		Tarsus
Jonah		Joppa
Joshua		Aram
Lydia		Tekoa
Martha		Bethany
Moses		Egypt
Naaman		Philippi
Ruth		Nazareth
Saul		Persia
Zacchaeus	Damascus	

Answers: Abraham - Ur, Amos - Tekoa, Ananias - Damascus, Cornelius - Caesarea, Daniel - Babylon, Dorcas - Joppa, Esther - Persia, Jesus - Nazareth, Jonah - Nineveh, Joshua - Canaan, Lydia - Philippi, Martha - Bethany, Moses - Egypt, Naaman - Aram, Ruth - Moab, Saul - Tarsus, Zacchaeus - Jericho

# Congregational Life of FUMC

August 1-15, 2019



- |                            |                         |                              |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Keith Ford               | 6 Oliver Burgett        | 1 Dan & Deborah Bodony       |
| 1 Judy Johnson (Mrs. Carl) | 6 Jack Simpson          | 5 Jeff & Bridgette Thompson  |
| 1 Roberta Johnson          | 7 Terry Benson          | 9 Bob & Connie Atkins        |
| 1 Amy Paul                 | 7 Anne Johnston         | 10 Jeff & Kristin Geis       |
| 1 Dick Rawlings            | 8 Linda Dimmick         | 11 Larry & Gloria Buhrmester |
| 2 Pat Askew                | 8 Marie Djunga          | 13 Larry & Joni Fredrickson  |
| 2 Rachel Curtis            | 8 Becki Fields          | 13 Don & Sharon Gerber       |
| 2 Sarah Curtis             | 8 Glenna Maxwell-Murphy | 13 Jim & Marge Moluf         |
| 2 Jack Hayes               | 9 Jim Moluf             | 13 Amy & Scott Shreve        |
| 2 Sylvia Herzog            | 10 Paul Djunga          |                              |
| 2 Irene Swank              | 10 Margery Starr        |                              |
| 3 Dawn Beyler              | 11 Jean Fisher          |                              |
| 5 Jon Mitchell             | 11 Eric Pecenka         |                              |
| 5 David Reineke            | 12 Pete Beyler          |                              |
|                            | 12 Lynne Lyman          |                              |
|                            | 13 Emily Tidemann       |                              |
|                            | 13 Elise Tompkins       |                              |
|                            | 14 Thomas Curtis        |                              |

## Hospital Report

Hospitalized in the past two weeks: Irene Swank.



## GOING INTO THE HOSPITAL?

If you are scheduled by your physician to be hospitalized, please indicate "**Champaign First United Methodist Church**" on your admission form.

Privacy guidelines will not allow hospitals to notify the Church without your permission. If you can, call us before you are admitted, or have a family member or friend let us know.

We don't want to miss you when we visit.

Rev. Julia & Rev. Jerry

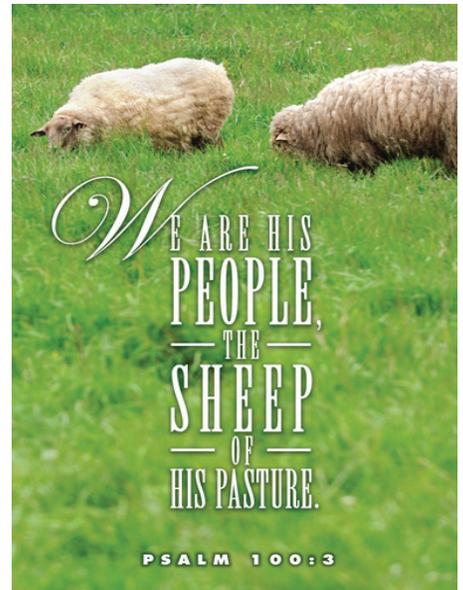


If you have a need for prayer, please call the Church Office at 356-9078.

## NEXT

**Messenger Deadline,  
July 18, 2019  
published on July 24**

Articles may be submitted by e-mail to:  
bberner@champaignfumc.org  
or brought to the Church.



**Do YOU need a ride to 11:00 Sunday Morning Worship Service?**



**We want you here to worship!!**  
Call Bruce Hemminger at 356-2576.

# Congregational Life of FUMC

## Church Calendar

### Thursday, July 11

10:00 Minds in Motion  
6:30 Perceptions Praise Team

### Saturday, July 13

Appalachia Service Project Ends

### Sunday, July 14

8:45 ARK Child Care  
9:00 Bible Study  
10:00 Coffee Connections  
10:30 Worship Service

### Monday, July 15

5:15 Board of Trustees

### Tuesday, July 16

7:00 Boy Scout Troop #1

### Wednesday, July 17

7:30 Venturing Crew 1

### Thursday, July 18

8:30 *Messenger* Deadline  
6:30 Perceptions Praise Team  
6:30 Stephen Ministry Supervision

### Sunday, July 21

8:45 ARK Child Care  
9:00 Bible Study  
10:00 Coffee Connections  
10:30 Worship Service

### Tuesday, July 23

7:00 Boy Scout Troop #1

### Wednesday, July 24

8:30 *Messenger* Assembly  
7:30 Venturing Crew 1

### Thursday, July 25

10:00 Minds in Motion  
6:30 Perceptions Praise Team

### Sunday, July 28

8:45 ARK Child Care  
9:00 Bible Study  
10:00 Blood Pressure Screenings  
10:00 Coffee Connections  
10:30 Worship Service

### Tuesday, July 30

10:30 Staff Meeting  
7:00 Boy Scout Troop #1

### Wednesday, July 31

7:30 Venturing Crew 1

### Thursday, August 1

8:30 *Messenger* Deadline  
6:30 Perceptions Praise Team

### Friday, August 2

4:00 Pre Family Fun Friday  
Night Live

### Saturday, August 4

8:45 ARK Child Care  
9:00 Bible Study  
10:00 Coffee Connections  
10:30 Worship Service  
4:00 Youth Trip to C-U  
Adventures in  
Time & Space

### Tuesday, August 6

9:30 Program Staff Meeting  
7:00 Boy Scout Troop #1  
7:00 Worship Ministry Team

### Wednesday, August 7

8:30 *Messenger* Assembly  
7:30 Venturing Crew 1

### Thursday, August 8

6:30 Perceptions Praise Team

### Sunday, August 11

8:45 ARK Child Care  
9:00 Bible Study  
10:00 Coffee Connections  
10:30 Worship Service  
4:30 LIFT (Leading In Faith  
Together)

### Monday, August 12

**Building Closed**  
7:00 Staff-Parish Relations  
Committee

### Tuesday, August 13

**Building Closed**

### Wednesday, August 14

7:30 Venturing Crew 1

### Thursday, August 15

8:30 *Messenger* Deadline  
4:30 UMW Fundraising  
Committee  
6:30 Perceptions Praise Team  
6:30 Stephen Ministry  
Supervision

### Friday, August 16

5:00 Youth Reunion at  
Papa Del's

### Saturday, August 17

Youth Reunion at Taste of  
Champaign-Urbana

### Sunday, August 18

Youth Reunion  
8:45 ARK Child Care  
9:00 Bible Study  
10:00 Coffee Connections  
10:30 Worship Service

### Monday, August 19

5:15 Board of Trustees

### Worship Attendance

#### Sunday, June 30, 2019

9:00.....59  
11:00.....136  
**Total.....195**

#### Sunday, July 7, 2019

10:30.....178

